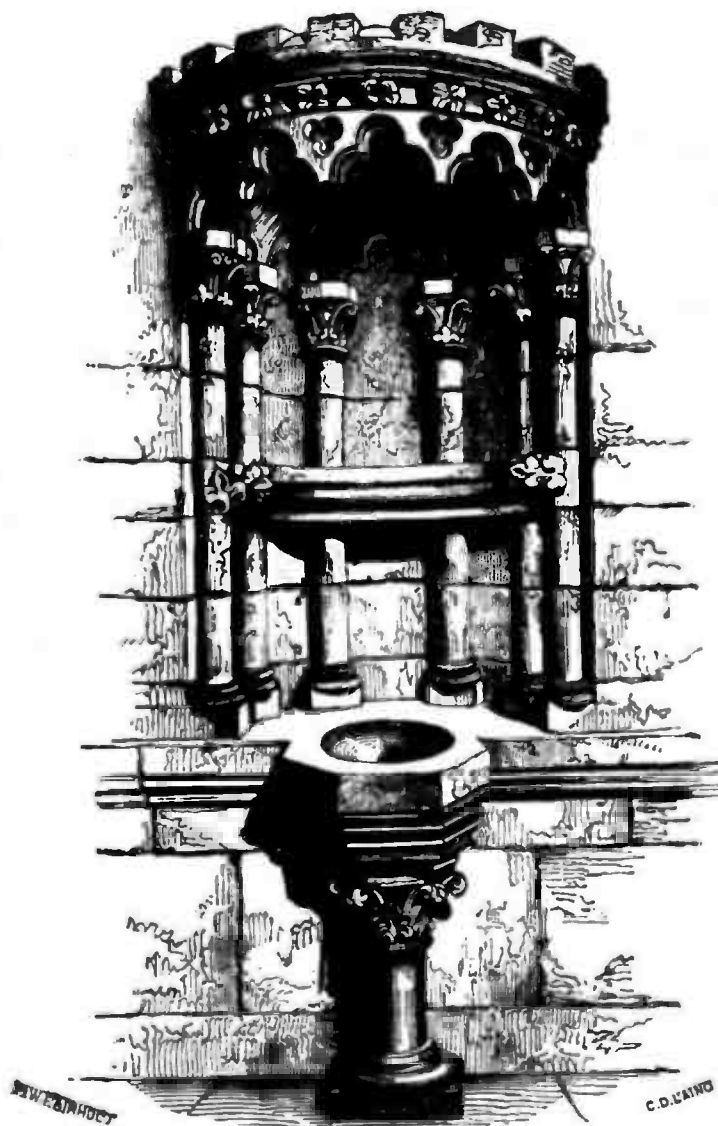


PISCINA, NOTRE DAME DE SEMUR.



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THE church of Notre Dame at Semur, was principally constructed in the 13th century, and is remarkably rich in its sculptured decoration, so that it forms a fine study for architectural enrichments of that century, and the two following, during which period it was erected.

The piscina here engraved, and which we copy from a plate in M. Didron's *Annales Archéologiques*, is stated there to be a work of the thirteenth century, and is in one of the chapels of the spire of that church. It has unfortunately not escaped injury, as it has been concealed by wooden panelling, which has partially damaged it in front. The semi-circular shelf or credence-table, half way beneath the canopy, is a curious feature in this design, it is made to project considerably, and is furnished with a ridge to prevent any thing from slipping that is placed on it. It was intended to receive the small vessels termed *burettes*, and made to contain the wine used in the service of the mass, or the water used in washing the sacred utensils. The drain empties itself on the external wall of the church from a gargoyles, shaped like the head of an animal similar to those which surround the choir of the Cathedral of Notre Dame at Paris.

TAVISTOCK CHURCH.—Mr. Robjohns, of that town, is about to publish three views of the interior of Tavistock Church, recently restored.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

ON the 26th of last month, the association met at their rooms in Sackville-street, Mr. Pettigrew, V.P., in the chair, and numerous matters of considerable interest were brought before them. Papers flow in, it seems, from all quarters, their provincial members being very active. Amongst the objects of interest exhibited, were two curious gold ornaments from Peru, which had been saved by Mr. W. D. Haggard from the melting pot at the Bank. They each exhibited a rude human figure worked in wire, as some thought, and soldered on to a flat piece of gold; others were of opinion that they were cast entire, and a long and uninteresting discussion was the consequence, in which Mr. Wright, the Rev. Mr. Nicholay, Mr. White, Mr. Solly, Mr. Newton, and others took part.

Mr. C. Baily read a paper, by Mr. Laing, on the tower of Trinity Church, at Colchester, which has lately, at the suggestion of the association, been stripped of a coating of plaster and whitewash, by the Rev. Mr. Owen, in order to develop its original architectural features, which prove to be Saxon, at all events in part. The foundations the rector considered pure Roman. The door-way has a triangular head, formed of brick or tile. Mr. Vint, of Colchester, communicated an account of the discovery, in his grounds at St. Mary's lodge, of an extensive Roman burial place. Mr. Roach Smith read a paper by Mr. Lukis, of Guernsey, on the primeval remains recently discovered by him in the Isle of Alderney,

which drew forth remarks from Professor Worsaae, of Copenhagen. Some discussion on Saxon architecture ensued, and the importance of obtaining precise means of distinguishing such was urged. Mr. Wright, in connection with the subject said, Saxon MSS. shewed squares in plaster of different colours, and even castles were spoken of as being painted of various colours. The meeting passed off with much spirit and general advantage.

The new number of the Journal of the association contains, amongst other interesting papers, an extended account of the proceedings of the council, a report on an archaeological visit to Colchester, and an abstract of the proceedings at Gloucester. At one of the meetings of council Mr. Baily submitted a drawing of a

NORMAN DOOR AT HANLOPE CHURCH, BUCKS.

afterwards engraved for the Journal, and as this presents peculiarities, we avail ourselves of the kindness of the council, and transfer it to our pages with Mr. Baily's own remarks upon it.

"The priest's door on the south side of the chancel of Hanlope Church, Bucks, although small, is at the same time a fine specimen of Anglo-Norman architecture, and possesses some features which do not appear to be very common. Amongst these, the overlapping the head of the inner jamb moulding by the series of small-pointed arches is very peculiar, as well as the conical-billeted moulding directly